

Remarks

The following remarks are responsive to the December 17, 2007 Requirement for Restriction.

Status of the Claims

Claims 11-31 are pending.

Requirement for Restriction

The Examiner restricted the claims to the following Groups: (I) Claims 11-21, drawn to a composition comprising a pulp extract from the fruit of *Argania spinosa* and at least one dermatopharmaceutical auxiliary and/or additive; (II) Claim 31, drawn to a triterpene fraction of an extract of the pulp of the fruit of *Argania spinosa*, comprising lupeol, alpha-amyrine, beta-amyrine, taraxasterol, and pitaraxasterol; (III) Claims 22-30, drawn to a process for producing an extract from the fruit of *Argania spinosa*.

In issuing the Requirement, the Examiner relied upon PCT Rules 13.1 and 13.2, and deemed that Groups (I)-(III) are not related to a single general inventive concept. Contrary to the Examiner's allegation, there is a technical relationship between Claims 11-21, Claim 31 and Claims 22-30 that is linked to form a single, general inventive concept in that the process according to Claim 22 is a process for preparing the extract of Claim 11, and Claim 31 is a fractionated form of the extract derived from the process of Claim 22. Therefore, the groups are linked to form a general inventive concept, and the requirement for unity of invention is satisfied. In view of the foregoing, the Requirement should be withdrawn.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Requirement is respectfully requested.

Election of Claims

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.143, Applicants elect with traverse Claims 11-21 of Group I for examination on the merits.

Election of Species

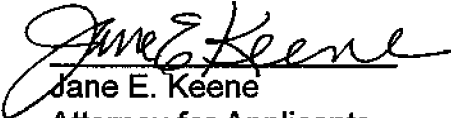
Applicants traverse the election of species, but elect surfactants as component (b). Since Applicants have not elected Group III, it does not appear necessary to elect a species of solvents as requested on page 3 of the Requirement. The claims which read upon the elected species include Claims 11-21.

Fees

No fees are believed due. The Commissioner is authorized, however, to charge (or credit any balance) any fees deemed due (or owing) to Deposit Account No. 50-1177.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 17, 2008


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